

RECOGNIZING THE 2021 NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT PTA ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the 2021 Northern Virginia District PTA Annual Award recipients. Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSAs) in Northern Virginia serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students.

The Northern Virginia District PTA represents 225 school PTAs representing 5 school divisions. Maintaining a healthy and strong organization is an important part of allowing these groups to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs that excel in this mission, as well as the volunteers and educators who support them. It is my honor to include in the RECORD their names:

2021 NOVA District PTA Elementary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: Rebecca Stebbins, Camelot ES PTA; Erin Anderson, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Jen Blackford, Little Run ES PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Secondary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: Shirley Alexander, Kilmer MS PTA; Samantha Mulvaney, Mark Twain MS PTA; Sherry Nachnani, Mount Vernon High School PTSA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Outstanding Educator and Staff Member of the Year Honorees: Ann Jopke, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA, Educator; Charlotte Quigley, Little Run ES PTA, Educator; Marion Hawthorne, Arlington Science Focus School PTA, School Counselor; Brittany Belscher, Little Run ES PTA, School Counselor.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Communications Award Honorees: Jennifer King, Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Andrea Kramer, Thoreau MS PTA; Monique Roberts-Rabil, Oakton HS PTSA; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Honorees: Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School PTA; Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy PTA; Union Mill ES PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA STEM/STEAM PTA of the Year Award Honorees: Arlington Science Focus School PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Outstanding PTA of the Year Award Honorees: Camelot ES PTA; Great Falls ES PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Union Mill ES PTA; Mount Vernon High School PTSA.

2021 New PTA Charter: Innovation ES PTA, Arlington County.

Congratulations to NOVA District PTA Students earning 2021 National PTA Reflections Awards for this year's theme "I Matter Because. . .": Claire Moon, Outstanding Interpretation, Visual Arts, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Julia Drolet, Award of Merit, Visual Arts, Wolftrap ES PTA; Manya Yellepeddy, Award of Excellence, Dance Choreography, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Isabelle "Trini" Rogando,

Award of Excellence, Literature, Thomas Jefferson HSST PTSA; Charles Nguyen, Award of Excellence, Literature, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Jake Sizemore, Award of Excellence, Music Composition, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA.

A special note of appreciation for dedicated service during 2020-2021 is extended to Hamid Munir, NOVA District Director; Debbie Kilpatrick, Assistant Director; Jason Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer; Julie Shepard, Advocacy Chair; Mary Gauvin, Communications Chair; Mike Woltz, Diversity, Outreach, and Inclusion Chair; Tony Shivers, Education Chair; Denise Bolton, Programs Chair; Martha Coleman, Events Coordinator; Patricia Franck, Special Projects Chair; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA President; Emily Vincent, Arlington County Council PTA President; Bill Pfister, Alexandria City Council PTA President; Pam Croom, Virginia PTA President; and Anna King, National PTA 57th President.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the individuals, PTAs and PTSAs that are being honored. Dedicated involvement from so many reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that students in our schools are fortunate to experience. I offer my strong support for these organizations and their dedicated members and volunteers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM O'HALLERAN**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on July 20, 2021, I was unable to vote on the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 2668, the Consumer Protection and Recovery Act. Had I been present, I would have voted against the Motion to Recommit.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT COLONEL PHILLIP JAMES DEVRIES II ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Phillip James DeVries II on his retirement after 28 years of honorable service to our Nation. I stand with the people of West Michigan in recognizing the tremendous impact Lieutenant Colonel DeVries has had on our Nation and abroad.

Lieutenant Colonel DeVries began his service at West Point, where he was commissioned as Second lieutenant Field Artillery Officer. He then went on to become a Strategic Plans and Policies Officer in the United States Army, where he aided in strategizing and planning the future of the Army. Chosen for his dedication to international affairs, he also had the honor of attending the NATO Defense College, where he gained the experience to participate in multiple international assignments involving 22 countries. Lieutenant Colonel

DeVries was deployed four times throughout his career and faithfully served his country through strategic operations and on the ground.

Lieutenant Colonel Phillip DeVries truly is an American hero, and his service will have a lasting effect both nationally and internationally.

Madam Speaker, it is because of dedicated, honorable individuals such as Lieutenant Colonel Phillip James DeVries II that I am incredibly proud to serve Michigan's 2nd Congressional District. I join with those in West Michigan and around the globe in thanking Lieutenant Colonel DeVries for his many years of service and wish him a happy retirement.

KYLE FRANCIS LEAHY—EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Kyle Francis Leahy who has been a scout since he was six years old, and recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Kyle demonstrated his leadership skills when he designed and created an outdoor classroom for the Friends School in Mullica Hill, South Jersey. Because of the pandemic, Kyle had minimal assistance while he cleared an 800 foot wooded trail ending in an amphitheater sized classroom. This will allow future generations of students to learn in a natural outdoor environment. Kyle is currently a senior at Tower Hill School in Delaware and plans on attending the University of South Carolina in their Capstone Leadership Program. Kyle wants to study economics and political science and has the hope to attend law school once he graduates from college. I am proud of Kyle and his dedication to his community, and I look forward to seeing what he accomplishes in the future. God Bless Kyle and God Bless America.

RECOGNIZING THE 2021 EXCELLENCE IN SALES HONOREES PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2021 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Woman in Sales Leadership Award, IES Member of the Year, and the Rising Star Award presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the